LAUNCESTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1972

Health Area Office,
Launceston, Cornwall

WILLIAM PATERSON, M.B.,Ch.B.,D.P.H.,M.F.C.M.
Medical Officer of Health

Health Area Office,
Launceston

To: The Chairman and Councillors of the
Launceston Rural District.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1972.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year population - 7120 - showed an increase of 130 over the previous year's figure. The number of live births was 100, six fewer than for 1971, while the total of deaths was 92, twenty-five more than for the previous year. Deaths from heart disease, cancer and cerebrovascular disease, in that order, headed the list of causes of death. One stillbirth and one infant death were recorded during the year.

Once again, the incidence of notifiable infectious disease was very low.

The improvement in the environmental conditions in the Rural District continued during the year, with further attention to schemes of sewerage and sewage disposal and the equally important daily care of the routine, but unobtrusive, tasks necessary to maintain the rising standards in the whole environmental field which have been gradually achieved during past years.

I wish to record my thanks to Mr. T.C.J. White, the Council's Public Health Inspector, for his valuable co-operation in all aspects of our work together, and in the preparation of this report, the bulk of the information concerning the sanitary circumstances of the District having been provided by him. To Mr. G.L. Davey, the Clerk of the Council, Mr. F.R. Thorne, the Council's Surveyor, and the Council's other officers, I am indebted for much willing help. I am grateful to the General Medical Practitioners for their co-operation.

The interest of the Council and, in particular, of the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee is once more gratefully acknowledged.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM PATERSON

Medical Officer of Health

LAUNCESTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health & Sewerage Committee

Cllr. Mrs. E. di Bryant - Chairman until Nov. 1972)
Cllr. H. R. Jones - Chairman after Nov. 1972) Public Health Section
Cllr. W. T. Hutchings - Vice Chairman)
Cllr. H.R. Jones - Chairman)
Cllr. W.J. Rowland - Vice Chairman) Sewerage Section

Cllr. R.J. Chegwin	Cllr. E.W.M. Shillaber	Cllr. E.J. Dingle
Cllr. C.J. Cowling	Cllr. A.L. Stephens	Cllr. W.J. Palmer
Cllr. Miss B.M. Mercer	Cllr. D.M.G. Bird	Cllr. W.J. Uglow
Cllr. E.C. Chudleigh	Cllr. F. Broad	Cllr. K.F. White - Feb.1973
	Cllr. J.T. Carpenter	

Ex Officio: Chairman of the Council Mr. L. Hooper and Vice-Chairman Mr. R.T. Kneebone

Meals-on-Wheels Sub-Committee

Mrs. E. di Bryant
E.C. Chudleigh
L. Hooper

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

W. PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

also holds appointments of:-

Medical Officer of Health -	Launceston Borough Council Bude/Stratton Urban District Council Stratton Rural District Council Camelford Rural District Council
Health Area Medical Officer-	Area No. 6, Cornwall County Council
School Medical Officer -	Cornwall County Council

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

T.C.J. WHITE, M.A.P.H.I.

AUTHORISED MEAT INSPECTORS

D. BURNS

M. DAWE

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	85,267
Population	7,120
No. of separate dwellings occupied	2,580
Rateable value 1972	£140,275
Product of 1p rate	£1,292

Live Births	Total	Male	Female	Rate per 1,000 estimated population
Legitimate	91	37	54	14.0
Illegitimate	9	3	6	
Stillbirths	1	1	-	10.0 (Rate per 1,000 total births)
Deaths (all causes)	92	43	49	12.9

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:

Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	NIL
Other Puerperal Causes	

Infant Mortality (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births)	1	-	1	10.0

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	8	8	16
Measles (all ages)		N I L	
Whooping Cough (all ages)		N I L	
Diarrhoea (under 2)		N I L	

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NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (in acres) 85,267. The district is essentially agricultural. Mining, formerly an important industry, is no longer in active operation, but quarrying, on a commercial scale, is carried on in the District. Industry otherwise is largely connected with agriculture, but there is a factory producing articles of plastic clothing.

Population The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year population was 7,120 an increase of 130 over the previous year. The "natural increase" of the population is the excess of births over deaths. In 1972, there were 8 more births than deaths.

Deaths The total number of deaths assigned to the district for the year was 92 compared with 67 in 1971. The crude death rate based on the mid-year population was 12.9 compared with 9.6 in the previous year. The following table has been compiled for comparison with previous years:-

Year	Total	Male	Female	Recorded Rate
1968	70	36	34	9.9
1969	82	42	40	11.6
1970	83	36	47	11.8
1971	67	28	39	9.6
1972	92	43	49	12.9

In order to compare the mortality in the district with the mortality for England and Wales, it is necessary to make a correction to allow for the difference in age and sex distribution of the two populations. This is done by applying to the crude death rate of the District an "Area Comparability Factor" which has been estimated by the Registrar General as 0.92 for the District.

The Standardised Death Rate, therefore, is 11.9 which may be compared with that of 12.1 for England and Wales.

Births The number of live births assigned to this District was 100 compared with 106 in 1971. The rate per thousand of the population was 14.00. When the Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor for births (1.20) is applied to this figure, the Standardised Birth Rate of 16.8 for this District compares with 14.8 for England and Wales.

Stillbirths There was one stillbirth in 1972.

Illegitimate Births There were nine illegitimate births assigned to the District during the year. Shown as a proportion of the total number of live births, this represents 9 per cent.

Maternal Mortality There was no death connected with childbirth during the year.

Infant Mortality There was one infant death in 1972.

Sex	Age	Cause of Death
F	1 month	Congenital heart disease

NOTE:
VITAL STATISTICS

It is important that too much weight should not be attached to small variations in these rates from one year to another, particularly where relatively small populations are involved - attention should rather be paid to the trend of these rates over a period of years.

MORTALITY TABLE

Classified in accordance with 65 headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification of Disease, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1965

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Late Effects of Respiratory T.B.	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	-	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	3	1	4
Other Malignant Neoplasms	4	3	7
Diabetes Mellitus	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	-	1	1
Hypertensive Disease	-	2	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease	15	14	29
Other Forms of Heart Disease	1	4	5
Cerebrovascular Disease	1	8	9
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	3	5
Influenza	1	1	2
Pneumonia	5	-	5
Bronchitis and Emphysema	3	-	3
Asthma	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	-	1
Peptic Ulcer	-	1	1
Nephritis & Nephrosis	1	1	2
Congenital Anomalies	1	2	3
Symptoms & Ill Defined Conditions	1	2	3
All Other Accidents	1	1	2
	43	49	92

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

General Medical Services

General medical services under Part IV of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are provided by medical practitioners resident in the district and in adjoining districts, all of whom undertake maternity medical services.

County Council Services

I Health Department. The County Council is the local health authority for the purposes of Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946, and provides the following services in the district:-

(a) Midwifery and Home Nursing. Nurse-midwives are provided to attend general nursing and midwifery cases in the home.

(b) Health Visiting. Health Visitors are available to give advice on health matters in the home or at the clinic. Originally concerned with the care of mothers and young children, which is still their basic function, they are increasingly concerned with the care of mothers and young children, which is still their basic function, they are increasingly concerned with other age groups, particularly the aged. Some health visitors combine this work with general nursing and midwifery. All act also as school nurses.

(c) Child Welfare Centre. A Child Welfare Clinic is held at the Health Clinic, Launceston, three times each month.

(d) Dental Clinic. Priority dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children is available at the Dental Clinic at the Health Clinic, Launceston.

(e) Vaccination and Immunisation. Facilities for vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, and for poliomyelitis vaccination, are provided at the Child Welfare Clinic or by the supply of materials to the family doctor.

Vaccination against measles is now provided forsusceptible children up to the age of 15 years, and a limited scheme of vaccination against German Measles, for older girls of secondary school age, has been introduced.

(f) Ambulance Service. A service of ambulances for the conveyance of sick, accident and emergency cases is provided. For sitting cases, utilecon sitting case vehicles are used. When appropriate, some such cases are carried by the Hospital Car Service, a voluntary organisation. Day-to-day administration of the service is carried out from the Ambulance Control, Bodmin.

(g) Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care. A full-time tuberculosis health visitor is provided for the care and after-care of tuberculous persons. District nurses are available to assist in the treatment of such persons when required by the Chest Physician or family doctor. Routine tuberculin testing and, if necessary, B.C.G. vaccination (i.e. vaccination against tuberculosis) is provided for senior school children.

Certain special investigations are carried out in other types of illness by district health visitors, while health education is carried out by the County's Medical and Nursing Staff.

II Education Department. As local education authority, the County Council is responsible for the School Health Service, which provides the following:-

Periodic Medical Inspection of pupils
Cleanliness Surveys of pupils
Dental Inspection and treatment of pupils
Ascertainment of handicapped pupils in need of special education
Treatment Clinic, Health Clinic, Launceston:-

Dental Clinic, twice weekly

Child Guidance, by arrangement

III Social Services Department The Local Authority Social Services Act, 1970, which resulted from the recommendations of the Committee on Local Authority and Allied Personal Services (the Seebohm Report) presented to Parliament in 1968, came into full operation on 1st April, 1971. This Act required the County Council to set up a Social Services Committee and appoint a Director of Social Services, who is now established at Old County Hall, Truro.

The Department is responsible for the following:-

All duties formerly carried out by the Children's Department
All duties formerly carried out by the Mental Health and Welfare section of the Health and Welfare Department.

Family casework with the physically and mentally disabled.
Day centres, clubs, adult training centres, workshops and residential accommodation for the above.
The day care of children under the age of five years, playgroups, etc. day nurseries and child minding.
The care of unsupported mothers, including residential care.
Home Help Service.

The Department retains a link with the Health Department in that the County Medical Officer remains Medical Adviser to the County Council, including the Social Services Committee, and the Deputy County Medical Officer deals with day-to-day medical matters affecting the Social Services Department.

The Social Workers for the District work from Hendra, Dunheved Road, Launceston.

Hospital Services. The South Western Regional Hospital Board is the hospital authority for the area.

Launceston Hospital provides in-patient and out-patient facilities in the district. Patients are referred also to hospitals in Plymouth and elsewhere. Cases of infectious disease are admitted to the Scott Hospital, Plymouth, and tuberculosis patients to Didworthy Chest Hospital or Tehidy Hospital. Mental hospital accommodation is provided by St. Lawrence's Hospital and Laninval House, Bodmin, and Moorfields Hospital, Ivybridge, Devon. An Orthopaedic Clinic is held twice monthly at the Health Clinic, Launceston, and a Physiotherapy Clinic at Tavistock Hospital. The Chest Clinic is held at Launceston Hospital. An Ophthalmic Clinic for school and pre-school children is held periodically at the Launceston Health Clinic. A Specialist Ante-natal Clinic is held in Launceston each week.

Laboratory Facilities. These are provided by the Public Health Laboratories at Plymouth and Truro to which specimens for bacteriological examination are submitted.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLIES

The East Cornwall Water Board serves the district with the exception of the parishes of Boyton, North Petherwin and Werrington, which receive their water from the North Devon Water Board.

During the year the East Cornwall Water Board extended their mains as follows:-

Parish	Length of Main laid (approx.)	Material & Size
Stokeclimsland - Luckett Scheme	1,340 yards & 3,000 yards	3" & 4" P.V.C.
Stokeclimsland - Beals Mill to Goosewell	1,580 yards	4" P.V.C.
St. Thomas - Tregadillett	82 yards & 104 yards	3" & 4" P.V.C.
Egloskerry	75 yards & 150 yards	3" & 4" P.V.C.
Lezant - Treburley	195 yards	3" P.V.C.
St. Stephens - Langore	257 yards	4" P.V.C.
Trewen - Pipers Pool	7,000 yards	4" P.V.C.

No new mains extensions were laid by the North Devon Water Board in the three parishes concerned during the year.

The East Cornwall Water Board provided 155 new connections and the North Devon Water Board provided 15 new connections.

A total of 1,656 properties are provided with connections to the public mains supply. Of this number 21 properties are served by standpipes.

Parish	No. of properties connected	+ Estimated population served
Altarnun	198	554
Boyton	18	51
Egloskerry	65	182
Lawhitton	55	154
Lewannick	84	236
Lezant	99	277
North Hill	158	442

WATER SUPPLIES (Contd.)

Parish	No. of properties connected	+ Estimated population served
St. Stephens	45	126
St. Thomas	124	347
South Petherwin	199	557
Stokeclimsland	341	955
Tremaine	4	12
Warbstow	86	241
Werrington	64	179
North Petherwin	70	196
Tresmeer	18	51
Treneglos	5	14
Trewen	24	67
Totals	1657	4641

+ Estimate based on a population per dwelling of 2.8 persons.

Estimated population served by standpipes 59.

WATER SAMPLES

Samples were taken for bacteriological analysis from the following public supplies, all of which are chlorinated:-

	Samples taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Altarnun	8	8	
Bastreet	62	35	27 (untreated water)
Bolventor	8	8	
Tregadillett	3	3	
Warbstow	11	11	
Luckett	3	3	
Pipers Pool	8	8	
Kennards House	2	2	
Langdon Cross	5	5	
North Petherwin	3	3	
Treburley	2	2	
Egloskerry	1	1	
Yeolnbridge	2	2	
Beals Mill	4	4	
Tregada	1	1	
Totals	123	96	27

Private Supplies

28 samples of water were taken for bacteriological analysis from individual private supplies. 20 samples proved to be unsatisfactory and 8 satisfactory. Advice and help is given where supply is unsatisfactory in an effort to overcome adverse conditions. Individual domestic filters have been installed in several instances and subsequent samples have been wholly satisfactory. A sample of water is taken from properties with private supplies if applications for Improvement grants are received.

Samples of water are taken from time to time from the two large Abattoirs in the district as both have borehole supplies.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES

Modern sewerage and sewage disposal facilities are available in the following communities:-

Altarnun and Five Lanes
Trewint
South Petherwin and Daws House
Stokeclimsland, Old Mill and Higherland
North Hill
Coads Green
Middlewood
Lawhitton
Trebullett
Egloskerry
Langore
Lewannick, Polyphant and Hicks Mill
Trebursye
North Petherwin
Warbstow
Tregadillett
Bathpool
Yeolmbridge, Ladycross and Wringsdown
Lezant (Stage 1), Trekenner and Treburley

Tregadillett Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme

The original scheme was completed in April, 1971, but because of the rapid rate of private development in the area, extensions to the sewage disposal plant had to be made earlier than had originally been envisaged and in May, 1971, a further extended aeration plant was installed. The final work of connecting this new plant into the existing system was completed in April, 1972. The contractor for the scheme was Messrs. Bazeleys (St. Columb.)

Lezant Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme

This scheme was designed to be constructed in two stages. The first stage, to serve Treburley and Trekenner, and the construction of the sewage disposal works near Beals Mill was started in October, 1971, and was completed in April, 1972.

Construction of the second stage to serve Rezare, Lezant, Churchtown and Beals Mill was started in May, 1972, and is still in progress.

The contractor for both stages is Messrs. Bazeleys (St. Columb.)

Lawhitton Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme

Because of recent development and the possible future development in the village area the existing sewage disposal works was found to be inadequate. A scheme to serve the whole village was commenced in June, 1972, and is still in progress. The scheme comprised some additional gravity sewers and a new disposal plant of the extended aeration type.

The contractor for the scheme is Ron Bell (Properties) Ltd.

GENERAL

The execution of the Council's programme of sewerage, sewage disposal and maintenance of completed schemes is the responsibility of the Engineer and Surveyor.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Trebursye and Altarnun

The value and importance of the conveniences at Trebursye on the A 30 trunk road cannot be over emphasised. They meet a real need particularly during the summer months.

The conveniences at Altarnun blend well with their surroundings and are a useful amenity catering for village and tourist needs.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

The Council do not employ a Rodent Operator. Advice on the treatment of infestations is given by the Public Health Inspector on receipt of a complaint.

The Public Health Inspector has treated the refuse tips from time to time in an effort to reduce to the minimum proportions any rodent population.

Ten complaints of rat and mice infestation of domestic properties were received during the year. In each case, advice was given by the Public Health Inspector after visiting the premises concerned.

THE CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960

There are three multiple caravan sites in the district; one site is situated at Tregadillett, which site is being constantly improved by the occupier; the two remaining sites are satisfactory.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The Council employ a contractor to collect household refuse along specified routes at weekly intervals, for which the contractor provides a purpose-built vehicle. Minor extensions of routes are made as and when the necessity arises and the vast majority of the properties in the district receive a weekly refuse collection. The properties not receiving a collection are mostly isolated houses on the moor. In some cases, however, arrangements have been made for the contractor to collect their refuse, which is brought to the main highway or to a lay-by. The contractor is most helpful and as a result this service is efficient and most economical.

The Council have been operating two refuse tips, one of which is sited on land belonging to the Duchy of Cornwall at Stokeclimsland and the other tip adjoins the Launceston Golf Course in the parish of St. Stephens. Towards the end of the year, the tip adjoining the Golf Course became full and the Council by arrangement with the Launceston Borough Council now make use of that Authority's tip between the town and South Petherwin.

HOUSING

Local Authority owned houses	..	188
Local Authority houses completed in 1972	..	Nil
Private Enterprise houses completed in 1972	..	88

Housing Act 1957

1) Houses in Clearance Areas demolished	..	Nil
2) Individual unfit houses demolished	..	1
3) Unfit houses closed	..	5
4) Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied:-	..	
(a) After informal action	..	21
(b) After formal notice under the Public Health Acts		Nil
(c) After formal notice under the Housing Act		Nil

OVERCROWDING

No cases of statutory overcrowding were found during the year.

RENT ACTS

No certificates of disrepair were requested.

IMPROVEMENT AND STANDARD GRANTS

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Schemes submitted during1972	..	30
Schemes approved during 1972	..	24
Schemes completed and paid during 1972	..	9
Amount of grant paid during 1972	..	£9,980.48p
Amount of grants approved during 1972	..	£22,047.68p

STANDARD GRANTS

Schemes submitted during 1972	..	39
Schemes formally approved during 1972	..	37
Schemes completed and paid in 1972	..	31
Amount of grant approved in 1972	..	£17,562.92p
Amount of grant paid in 1972	..	£13,521.77p
Total number of grants offered	..	526
Total number of grants paid	..	430
Total value of grants paid	..	£81,381.84p
Total number of water closets provided	..	412
Total number of baths provided	..	422
Total number of lavatory basins provided	..	418
Total number of hot water systems provided	..	415
Total number of sinks provided for first time	..	69

The average grant was £436.18p, an average increase of £165.43p grant per property over the previous year.

MILK SUPPLIES

Brucella Abortus

By an arrangement with the County Medical Officer, samples of raw milk from the herds of producer-retailers in the area are taken by the County Public Health Inspector, every two to three months, and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Truro, for examination. Bulk samples are first subjected to the Milk Ring Test, and, if positive, samples from the individual cows in the herd are subsequently submitted for culture for brucella abortus. Ten herds were examined under these arrangements.

(i)	Number of individual samples of raw milk examined (culture)	39
(ii)	Number of positive samples found	Nil
(iii)	Action taken in respect of positive samples	-

Brucellosis (Accredited Herds) Scheme

The herds of eight producer-retailers in the District are now registered as accredited under this scheme. In these cases, routine sampling is undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

FOOD PREMISES

There are in the district:-

Public Houses	7
Hotels	1
Cafes	9
Butcher Shops	8
General Provisions	20
Fruit Merchants	2

104 visits were made to all types of food premises.

No formal notices were served.

KNACKERS YARD

There is one licensed knackers yard in the district.

MEAT INSPECTION AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are three slaughterhouses in the district. Two are large abattoirs which slaughter for the wholesale market. The third slaughterhouse serves the needs of an individual butcher.

A one hundred per cent meat inspection service is provided by the Council's Public Health Inspector and two Authorised Meat Inspectors.

Maintaining the meat inspection service with this amount of staff has proved difficult at holiday times and during periods of sickness. Assistance is not available from local or nearby veterinary surgeons other than for relatively short periods and the cost to the Council is high. During the year the Public Health Inspector has spent a very considerable time on full-time meat inspection covering holiday and sickness periods.

Details of the animals slaughtered and inspected are set out in the table attached to this report. (Table IV).

POULTRY INSPECTION

There are no poultry processing establishments registered with the Council.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 1964

Six dealers are currently registered.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Total number of factories with power	26
Total number of factories without power	4
Outworkers	1

Classification of Factories

Agricultural Foodstuffs	4
Motor Vehicle Repairs	5
Agricultural Engineers	5
Abattoirs	2
General Smithing	1
Concrete Block Making	1
Joinery	3
Ice Cream Manufacture	Nil
Saw Mills	1
Poultry Appliances	1
Scrap Merchants	Nil
Clothing	1
Knacker	1
Quarry Engineers	2
Road Making Signs	1
Water Treatment	1
Plastic Welding	1
Surgical Shoe Maker	1

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Act are attached to this report in the manner required by Circular 1/73 of the Department of Health and Social Security.

THE OFFICES SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Registrations existing at the end of the year

Offices	3
Retail Shops	4
Wholesale shops & warehouses	Nil
Catering establishments open to the public	3
Fuel Storage Depots	Nil

Analysis by workplace of persons employed in Registered Premises at end of year

Offices	9
Retail Shops	6
Catering Establishments	18
Fuel Storage Depots	Nil
Canteens	3
	36

(of whom 20 are females)

No accidents were reported.

In order to avoid duplication of labour, four premises are inspected by the Factory Inspector only, where, otherwise both he and the Public Health Inspector would make separate inspections.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the district.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The infectious diseases which are statutorily notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health are the following:- Cholera, plague, relapsing fever, typhus, smallpox, acute encephalitis, acute meningitis, acute poliomyelitis, anthrax, amoebic dysentery, bacillary dysentery, diphtheria, infective jaundice, leprosy, leptospirosis, malaria, measles, ophthalmia neonatorum, paratyphoid fever, typhoid fever, scarlet fever, tetanus, tuberculosis, whooping cough, yellow fever and food poisoning.

The monthly incidence of infectious disease is shown in Table III.

Smallpox No case was notified during the year.

Diphtheria No case of diphtheria was notified during the year. 307 children in the Health Area received a complete course of immunisation during the year, the triple antigen against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus being used in all cases. 397 children received reinforcing injections, and diphtheria-tetanus vaccine being used in these cases.

Poliomyelitis No case of this infection was notified during the year, in the course of which 316 persons in the Health Area received a complete course of oral vaccination, and a further 560 a reinforcing dose.

Measles One case was notified during the year.

Vaccination against measles has now taken its place as one of the routine protective procedures in the schedule of infant vaccination, and is offered during the second year of life, usually following the completion of diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus and poliomyelitis vaccination courses at the age of one year. It continues to be available also for older children who have not already had this protection, or suffered from the infection.

During the year, 286 children were vaccinated against the disease in the whole of the Health Area.

Food Poisoning One case of food poisoning was notified in March, the symptoms being apparently connected with food eaten while on holiday out of the area. Bacteriological investigations were negative for any of the food poisoning group of germs. This fact, and the patient's description of the symptoms, made it appear likely that this was not a true bacterial food poisoning due to an infection by food poisoning germs, but rather an allergic reaction to some unaccustomed article of food.

Tuberculosis

	Males		Females	
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul
Cases on Register 31.12.71	6	3	5	2
No. of cases notified during the year	1	-	-	-
Cases restored	-	-	-	-
Inward Transfers	-	-	-	-
Cases Removed	-	-	-	-
Cases on Register 31.12.72	7	3	5	2

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

The Regional Hospital Board is responsible for treatment of tuberculosis patients and the County Council for the prevention of spread of the disease and after care of the patients.

Out-patients and contacts are seen by the Chest Physician (Dr. Dawson) at the Chest Clinic at Launceston Hospital. The County Council Tuberculosis Health Visitor attends the Clinic, follows up the patients in their homes, traces contacts and sources of infection and thus acting as a most valuable essential "Liaison Officer" between the curative and preventive services, bridges a most alarming administrative gap.

All susceptible contacts of known cases are offered B.C.G. vaccination and most avail themselves of this method of protection.

The scheme for B.C.G. vaccination of susceptible children of secondary school age was continued by the County Council during the year, again with a good response.

OTHER DISEASES

Cancer of the Lung During 1972, out of a total of 16 deaths from all forms of cancer, three male and one female deaths were due to cancer of the lung. This brings the total of deaths from this cause in the district since 1949 to 28 male and 5 female deaths. During the same period, there have been 139 male and 151 female deaths from all forms of cancer.

Cancer of the Cervix The County Council's Cervical Cytology Clinic at Launceston continued to operate during the year.

Women between the ages of 30 and 55 years are accepted for this form of examination. The clinic at Launceston serves the whole of the Health Area and beyond. During the year, 738 specimens were submitted to the laboratory. One case of the pre-cancerous stage of the disease was discovered, and a number of minor conditions were identified. The patient's general practitioner receives a copy of the laboratory report, and arranges for appropriate treatment.

The national scheme for the conduct of this form of investigation envisages the repetition of this type of test for each individual after an interval of five years. The system of recall, started towards the end of 1971, continued during 1972, and a proportion of the total number tested attended for this repeat examination.

MEALS-ON-WHEELS SERVICE

This valuable service continued during the year, the following parishes in the Rural District benefiting from it:-

Altarnun, North Hill, South Petherwin, Lewannick, including Polyphant, Egloskerry, and Laneast.

In September 1972, Mrs. R. T. Kneebone took over the organisation of the service, which continues to be greatly appreciated.

TABLE I

TUBERCULOSIS

AGE and SEX distribution of cases and deaths - 1972

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pul.		Other		Pul.		Other	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE II

VITAL STATISTICS

YEAR	POPULATION (Estimated)	BIRTHS		DEATJS			
		Number	Crude Rate	Under 1 year		All ages	
				Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1968	7,070	110	15.6	2	18	70	9.9
1969	7,090	80	11.3	1	12.5	82	11.6
1970	7,060	98	13.9	4	41	83	11.8
1971	6,990	106	15.2	2	19	67	9.6
1972	7,120	100	14.0	1	10	92	12.9

TABLE III

Monthly Incidence of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

TABLE IV

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excl. cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No. killed	1650	1341	3245	69469	23020	NIL
No. inspected	1650	1341	3245	69469	23020	NIL
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis Whole carcases condemned	8	52	125	275	71	NIL
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	420	583	92	2868	3857	NIL
% of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticercosis	25.93	47.35	6.68	3.121	17.06	-
Tuberculosis only Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	116	-
% of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	NIL	-	-	-	0.504	-
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	7	1	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	7	1	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Unfit meat and offal condemned:- 42 Tons 11 CWT 75 lbs approx.

Table 10

[illegible]

Diseases and conditions found in cattle in [illegible]

	Fresh meat [illegible]	Gum	Tongue	Heart and lungs	Liver	Kidney
No. killed	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
No. inspected	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
All diseases [illegible]						
Whole carcasses condemned	8	52	125	175	71	NIL
Diseases of which some part or organ was condemned	420	585	92	1,659	3,857	NIL
% of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and septicaemia	22.23	17.37	0.05	5.171	17.44	-
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diseases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	112	-
% of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	021	-	-	-	0.501	-
Septicaemia						
Diseases of which some part or organ was condemned	7	1	-	-	-	-
Diseases [illegible] in [illegible] and in [illegible]	1	1	-	-	-	-
Emaciation and [illegible] condition	-	-	-	-	-	-

[illegible] not [illegible] [illegible] - [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

TABLE V

Classified Visits and Inspections made by the Public Health Inspector

Food and Drugs Act	...	...	6
Infectious Diseases	...	...	Nil
Public Health Act	...	...	69
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act.		...	Nil
Slaughterhouses, Meat Inspection & Food Premises		...	98
Milk and Dairies	...	...	Nil
Improvement Grants	...	...	199
Caravan Sites	...	...	10
Rodent Control	...	...	10
Housing Act	...	...	54
Refuse Disposal	...	...	55
Sewers and sewerage	...	...	40
Water Supplies	...	...	24
Factories Act	...	...	Nil
Miscellaneous	...	...	18
Local Government Re-organisation		...	10
		Total	593

APPENDIX

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	Nil	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	26	Nil	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises	-	-	-	-
Total	30	Nil	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more 'cases'.)

N I L

PART VIII OF THE ACT - Outwork - (Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel) Making etc. Cleaning and Washing	1					
Household linen						
Lace, lace curtains & nets						
Curtains & furniture hangings						
Furniture and upholstery						
Electro-plate						
File making						
Brass and brass articles						
Fur pulling						
Iron & steel cables & chains						
Iron and Steel and grapnels						
Cart gear						
Locks, latches and keys						
Umbrellas etc.						
Artificial flowers						
Nets, other than wire nets						
Tents	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Sacks						
Racquet and Tennis balls						
Paper bags						
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper						
Brush making						
Pea picking						
Feather sorting						
Carding, etc., of buttons etc						
Stuffed toys						
Basket making						
Chocolates and sweetmeats						
Cosaques, Christmas stockings etc.						
Textile weaving						
Lampshades						
Total	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL